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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Stahl- u. Walzwerke Brandenburg (Brandenburg Steelworks and Rolling Mill), the former Mitteldeutsche Stahlwerke GmbH (Central German Steelworks, Ltd.) in Brandenburg, is located on Magdeburger Landstrasse in Brandenburg/Havel (N 53/2 23).
2. This plant was damaged during the war and was completely dismantled by the Soviets in 1945/1946. The equipment of the dismantled plant was shipped to Rostov (47°15'N/39°53'E), Molotov (53°00'N/56°15'E) and Chernyakhovsk (54°39'N/21°50'E). The plant premises were owned by Land Brandenburg in late 1946. The 1949/1950 Two-Year-Plan of the Soviet Zone of Germany scheduled reconstruction of the plant for 1950. It is now called Stahl- und Walzwerke Brandenburg and is an independent association of nationalized enterprises (zonal plants) in Brandenburg. * In February 1950, the Central Technical Designing Office of the Main Department of Metallurgy at 83/84 Lauerstrasse in Berlin drew up blueprints for the workshops and crane equipment, as well as for the mechanical and metallurgical installations for this plant. The VVB Bau-Union Ost in Brandenburg was assigned as chief contractor for the excavation and construction work.
3. The following installations were scheduled for the plant:

One steel works equipped with 10 open-hearth furnaces with a daily capacity of 100 tons each and 1 electric furnace with a daily capacity of 40 tons

One fuel installation with gas producers and 12 blowers

One dolomite bunker

One water works

One waste heat boiler

One pneumatic installation with three compressors

One rolling mill for billets and sheet bars with main blooming train, intermediate blooming train, four-frame continuous billet and sheet bar train, and a sheet bar cutting machine

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One medium plate and sheet plate rolling mill

One machine shop

One locomotive shed and railroad car repair shop

One laboratory

One administrative building with a kitchen

Power was to be drawn from the general network. The scheduled connected load was 9,680 kws for the open-hearth steel works with its subsidiary installations, 10,000 kws for the electric furnace, 15,900 kws for the billet and sheet bar rolling mill, 6,100 kws for the nickel and steel metal rolling mill, and 2,320 kws for the machine shop, the locomotive installations, the laboratory, the administrative building, etc. The total power requirements, therefore, were 44,000 kws.

The first open-hearth furnace was put into operation in July 1950 and the second in September 1950. The third open-hearth furnace was scheduled to start operation in mid-October 1950. Although the installation of 10 open-hearth furnaces was originally planned, this figure was reduced to four in September 1950. When reconstruction fell short of the initial plans, the plant management decided that three open-hearth furnaces would have to suffice for 1950. The foundations of the fourth open-hearth furnace had already been built and were scheduled to remain until the furnace could be set up. The rolling mill equipment was delivered by the U.S.S.R. and by the Schloemann A.G. in Duesseldorf (K 52/F 39).

4. The plant was scheduled to produce about 5,000 tons of steel ingots, blooms or billets in August 1950. The SAG Plant in Wettstodt (N 52/D 64) was to receive 100 tons per day of this plant's production, the Ilsenburg (N 52/D 06) **rolling mill** 40 tons, and the Thale (N 52/D 25) SAG Plant 25 tons. According to an order of the Ministry of Industry, the plant was scheduled to produce 14,000 tons of steel ingots in October 1950 of which 4,000 tons were to be delivered to the Krupp-Gruson SAG Plant in Magdeburg (N 53/Y 60), 5,000 tons to the Hennigsdorf (N 53/Z 76) steel works and **rolling mill**, 1,000 tons to the Maximilian iron works in Unterwellenborn (N 51/J 63), and 4,000 tons to the Kirchmoeser (N 53/Z 12) **rolling mill**. *

5. The chief manager of the plant was Greif (fnu), the commercial manager Witz (fnu), the chief accountant Dietze (fnu), the operational manager Seger (fnu) and the planning manager Greiner (fnu). The number of employees was estimated at about 3,500. Work was done in three shifts.

6. The plant was to have been under enforced guard control of the SSD (Soviet Zone security service) and of the LVD since 15 September 1950.

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- * Comment. The production quota demanded by the Soviet Zone Ministry of Industry was probably not achieved in August or in October, since the reconstruction of the plant obviously had not progressed on schedule by October 1950.

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